


AAVSB and State / Provincial Licensing Bodies

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Tom Kendall, DVM
Director

Representing
American Association of Veterinary State Boards
(AAVSB)



About AAVSB

American Association of Veterinary State Boards

- AAVSB is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit corporation dedicated to its overall objective and mission which is to provide quality **resources for veterinary regulatory agencies, professionals, and allied groups in the interest of public protection**
- AAVSB is an organization of organizations

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AAVSB Website



The screenshot shows the AAVSB website homepage. At the top, the AAVSB logo is displayed with the tagline "serving veterinary regulatory boards in the interest of public protection". Below the logo, there are four main service categories: VIVA (Veterinary Interstate Building Agency), VTNE (Veterinary Technician National Exam), PAVE (Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence), and RACE (Registry of Approved Continuing Education). Each category has a list of sub-services or links. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with links to Home, About Us, Our Services, Member Services, Annual Meeting, Board and Agency Directory, General FAQs, Helpful Links, and Contact Us. On the right side, there is a "Member Services" section with links to AAVSB Member Boards, License/Disciplinary Updates, Annual Conference, and Practice Act Model. At the bottom right, there is a "In the Spotlight" section mentioning PAVE Fall results for the Fall 2011 NAVLE.

AAVSB Member Boards

Represent 57 jurisdictional veterinary regulatory boards including

- All of the United States
- District of Columbia
- Puerto Rico
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- Four Canadian provinces - Alberta, Ontario, British Columbia, and Prince Edward Island

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Member Boards Participation

- Member Boards appoint voting **Delegates**
- **Delegates**
 - Elect AAVSB Board of Directors
 - Vote on pertinent issues
 - Allow direct involvement by Member Boards in AAVSB programs and services

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AAVSB Member Services

- **PAM**– Practice Act Model
- **Annual Meeting and Conference**
September 13-15, 2012 in Seattle, Washington
- **Member Communications**
Newsletters, President's letters, and e-communications
- **MyAAVSB**
Individual user account with secure login and access to discussion Forum

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AAVSB Programs

- **VIVA** – Veterinary Information Verifying Agency
Initial AAVSB Program. Started in 1996.
- **VTNE** – Veterinary Technician National Examination
Part of VIVA. Examination Purchased in 2005.
- **RACE** – Registry of Approved Continuing Education
Started as Task Force in 1997. First Programs Approved 1999.
- **PAVE**– Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence
Recognized in 38 Jurisdictions.

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About VIVA



Veterinary Information Verifying Agency

- Centralized database of veterinarian and veterinary technician information including:
 - National Exam Scores
 - NBE, CCT, NAVLE, VTNE
 - Disciplinary Actions
 - Credential History
 - Initial AAVSB Program

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About VTNE

Veterinary Technician National Examination

- High stakes exam owned and administered by the AAVSB
- Ensures candidates have a specified level of knowledge and skills to enter practice and/or be licensed
- Examination Purchased in 2005
- 5,805 Candidates took the exam in 2011
- In the last administration, 74.38% passed on first attempt
- 40 of the AAVSB Member Boards regulate Veterinary Technicians

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About RACE

Registry of Approved Continuing Education

- Established as a clearinghouse for the review and approval of CE providers and their programs on behalf of participating Member Boards
- Applications are evaluated utilizing broadly-acknowledged Standards for continuing veterinary medical education, based on input from participating Member Boards
- Started as Task Force in 1997
- First Programs Approved 1999

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About PAVE

Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence

- Evaluates the education equivalence of international veterinary graduates on behalf of participating Member Boards
- Designed to ensure that PAVE-certified licensure candidates have the qualifications and experience that are equivalent to an AVMA accredited veterinary education
- PAVE is Recognized in 38 Jurisdictions
- First QE Exam in 2002

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In General, Licensing Bodies....

- Function of State/Provincial Government
- Legal Authority to Regulate Practice
- Protect the Public
 - 1) Determine who is qualified to enter the profession
 - 2) Ensure that licensed veterinarians practice with skill and safety
- Licensee
 - 1) Gains professional privilege
 - 2) Loses freedom

Licensing Bodies....

- Establish Qualifications for Licensure and License renewal, education, examination, character and CE
- Aid in developing and refining Statutes and Rules and set minimum standards for the licensees and expectations for the public
- Investigate Complaints
- Resolve Complaints
- Address Ongoing Competency

Licensing Bodies....

Licensing bodies exist to protect the **PUBLIC!**

- Licensing bodies respond to complaints from consumers and the profession regarding a veterinarian's competency, standard of care and professional conduct.
- Licensing bodies regulate over 97,000 licensed veterinarians in the United States and Canada.
- Conflict of interest policies exist to prevent board members from participating in decisions in which they have a previous relationship or vested interest in the outcome.
- Decisions based on fact, not emotion.

Licensing Bodies....

- State and provincial laws and regulations determine the process in which complaints are handled. Due process and legal procedures are followed. Decisions must be able to withstand court appeal.
- The goal of licensing bodies is not to remove every licensee from practice if deficiencies are identified but to maintain a minimum standard of practice. Additional education, proving competency and possibly limiting practice are tools first used by licensing bodies to remedy competency and standard of care issues. Maintaining a competent veterinary workforce is the goal of any licensing body. In serious or egregious incidents, licensure is suspended or revoked.
- Most licensing bodies have board members who are engaged in active veterinary practice who have the knowledge and expertise to determine reasonable expectations for the practitioner.
- Most disciplinary actions are stipulated (agreed upon) by both the licensee and the regulatory body.

In Short.....

Licensing Bodies Do These Things

- License
- Discipline

All To Protect The Public

